

**IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of: MICHALUK *et al.*

Application No.: 09/922,815

Filed: August 6, 2001

Group Art Unit: 1742

Examiner: A. Oltmans

For: HIGH PURITY TANTALUM PRODUCTS CONTAINING THE SAME AND METHODS OF MAKING  
THE SAME

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**SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**PURSUANT TO 37 CFR 1.97(c)**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

September 20, 2002

Sir:

The attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. One copy of each of these documents is attached. This Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted before any receipt of a final Office Action or Notice of Allowance in the present application.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office can, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 CFR 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents cited in the attached Form PTO-1449 be made of record therein and appear on the first page of any patent to issue therefrom.

This submission does not represent that a search has been made or that no better art exists and does not constitute an admission that each or all of the listed documents are material or constitute "prior art." If the Examiner applies any of the documents as prior art against any claim in this application and applicant determines that the cited documents(s) do not constitute "prior art" under

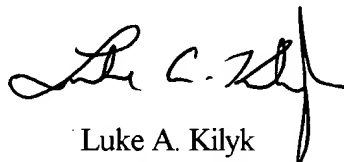
Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement  
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/922,815

United States law, applicant reserves the right to present to the office the relevant facts and law regarding the appropriate status of such documents.

Applicant further reserves the right to take appropriate action to establish the patentability of the disclosed invention over the listed documents, should one or more of the documents be applied against the claims of the present application.

Please charge to Deposit Account No. 03-0060 in the amount of \$180.00 for the filing of this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fee (or credit any overpayment) associated with this Statement to Deposit Account No. 03-0060. Two copies of this authorization are attached.

Respectfully submitted,



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Enclosures: PTO-1449, w/27 Documents